GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2907
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008
ACCREDITED SOCIAL HEALTH ACTIVISTS
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs), working at present in the country;

(b) the details of their responsibilities outlined in the mandate alongwith details of remuneration being paid;

(c) whether the present strength of ASHAs across the country particularly in Bihar is sufficient; and

(d) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) Annexure is enclosed.

(b) ASHA is a health activist in the community to create awareness on health, its social determinants and mobilize the community towards local health planning, increased utilization and accountability of the existing health services. Her roles and responsibilities are

(i) to create awareness

ii) to counsel

iii) to mobilize the community and facilitate them in accessing health and health related services

iv) to work with the Village Health & Sanitation Committee of the Gram Panchayat.

v) Escort and company pregnant women and children requiring treatment

vi) Provide primary medical care for minor illness

vii) To act as a depot holder for essential provisions

viii) To inform about births and deaths and

ix) to promote construction of household toilets under total sanitation campaign.

ASHA is an honorary volunteer and would not be paid any salary or honorarium. However, ASHA is being compensated for her time in the following situation:

For duration of training in terms of TA and DA

For participating in monthly/bi-monthly meetings for undertaking specific health or other social sector programmes with measurable out puts. (Disbursement of compensation to ASHA will be made as per specific payment mechanism built into individual programmes)

The average remuneration depends on the total performance based payments that the ASHA is entitled to as per the work done by her. It can vary from village to village and ASHA to ASHA.

(c) Yes the present strength of ASHA across the country pertaining to Bihar is sufficient. About 90% of ASHA has been selected till now. Against the total target of ASHA which is 74384; 66701 has been selected the process for rest is in progress.

(d) the question does not arise